[16th March 1954

Sales tax on perishable articles.

* 189 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the income derived by the State Government by way of sales tax on perishable articles such as meat, egg, fruits, etc., in the year 1952; and

(*b*) whether the Government have any scheme to abolish the sales tax on perishable articles?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) It was about Rs. 9 lakhs in 1952–53.

" (*b*) Yes. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Finance Minister's Budget speech in the Assembly on 26th February 1954 in this connexion."

MR. SPEAKER :—" Yesterday this question was discussed threadbare and the Hon. Minister gave an elaborate reply."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" முட்டை முதலிய அழுகும் சாமான்களுக்கு இப்பொழுது விற்பனை வரி விலக்கு அளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதைப்போலவே சில மணி நேரத்தில் கெட்டுப்போகக்கூடிய புஷ்பம் முதலியவைகளுக்கும் விற்பனை வரியை ரத்து செய்ய சர்க்கார் முன் வருவார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I think flowers also may come under exemption."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" உருளைக் கிழங்கு, கருணைக் கிழங்கு முதலியவைகள் காய்கறி வகைகளில் வருகிறதா அல்லது வேறு வகையில் வருகிறதா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" They are vegetables, but not green vegetables. I hear in Bengal and South Kanara, even fish is considered as a vegetable."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" On a point of information, Sir. In South Kanara, fish is not considered as a vegetable."

Assignment of slums to Harijans in Madras City.

* 190 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have instructed the Collector of Madras, Corporation of Madras and the City Improvement Trust to assign the respective slums in the city under their control to the Harijan occupiers under the Madras Slum Improvement (Acquisition of Land) Act, 1954?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Madras Slum Improvement (Acquisition of Land) Bill, 1954, has not yet become law. The question of issuing instructions to the Collector of Madras and the City Improvement Trust does not, therefore, arise."